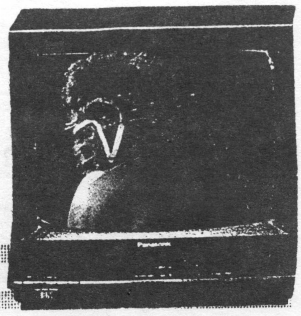
MATWATCH

16 Robin Hood Lane Jackson TN 38305



VOL. 3, NO. 22 NOV. 26-DEC. 2

Prime Time Thanksgiving Week

WARRIOR, HOGAN ULTIMATE SURVIVORS; FLAIR MAKES TEDDY VALET

Overcoming 2-on-4 odds after the Warlord and Tito Santana were eliminated, The Ultimate Warrior and Hulk Hogan captured the Match of Survival finale in 9:10 at the fourth annual SURVIVOR SERIES Thanksgiving night in Hartford CT.

Two nights earlier, Ric Flair---aided by the chair of Arn Anderson---pinned Butch Reed in 14:22 of the coin flip main event of CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS XIII at Jacksonville FL. The win makes DOOM manager Teddy Long a "valet for a day" for the Two Horsemen *(see analysis on page 2).*

MATCH OF SURVIVAL: The finale began with Santana, Hogan and Warrior---babyface survivors in three previous matches---against Ted DiBiase and the entire Rick Martel-led Visionaries team. Santana eliminated Warlord with the forearm in 28 seconds but 1:25 later, DiBiase pinned Santana with a hotshot. After surviving a Power and Glory powerbomb, Hogan clotheslined Roma out at 5:35 and tagged in Ult, who cleaned house. Two minutes later, Hogan clotheslined Martel out & The Model retreated to the dressing room for a countout. At 8:35, DiBiase fell victim to the Hogan legdrop, followed by a Warrior splash to finish Hercules at 9:10. RESTHOLD...match too predictable.

WARRIORS VS. PERFECT TEAM: Animal began by jumping Smash and Curt Hennig took an over-the-top bump at 2:00. Bill Eadie (Ax), in his final WWF appearance, was the first to go at 3:25 to a Warrior splash. In a mid-match brawl, both the Legion of Doom and Demolition Crush/Smash were disqualified (inexplicably as only Hawk's knee of the ref was all that was seen) at 7:35. Hennig took two OT bumps and Ult butted Curt and Bobby Heenan together before Ult railed Heenan into the crowd. But Kerry Von Erich posted himself and Hennig Perfect-plexed Kerry for a pin at 11:00. Ult survived four near-falls to Curt before his war dance rally, clotheslining Curt four times & splashing for the win at 14:20. SURVIVOR: Ultimate Warrior. MATCH RATING: DRAW...only for Curt.

MILLION $ TEAM VS. DREAM TEAM: This one was to get Mark Callaway over as The Undertaker and bury Dusty and brilliantly did both. Unquestionably the best of the evening as Mark's cold stare was starkly captured in closeups, along with his Black Scorpionesque costume. Mark never sold a thing and eliminated Koko B. Ware with his "tombstone" maneuver at 1:42. Jim Neidhart evened the score with a powerslam on Honky Tonk Man at 4:22. But Neidhart went out at 5:53 when Virgil tripped him into a DiBiase clothesline. At 8:30, Undertaker pinned Dusty with a crash from the top rope. But as Dusty went after Brother LUV, Undertaker chased Dusty into the aisle and destroyed him. Mark was counted out at 9:28 but the point was made against the new NWA booker (see adjoining column). This left Bret Hart in a 1-on-2 situation. Bret battled Greg Valentine and small packaged Greg for a pin at 10:00. Hart scored four two-counts on DiBiase before Ted reversed a cross body block for the win at 14:00. SURVIVOR: Ted DiBiase. MATCH RATING: POWERSLAM.

VIPERS VS. VISIONARIES: Too little Rockers and odds too great for Jake in this one. Warlord pinned Marty Jannetty at 5:13 by reversing

(Continued on Page 2)

DUSTY GETS THE NOD FOR NWA

ATLANTA---Nearly two years to the day after being fired by World Championship Wrestling, Inc., Virgil (Dusty Rhodes) Runnels is being rehired as booker for WCW and is expected to take over by next Monday, according to reliable insiders.

At deadline, the move had still not been confirmed by WCW officials but sources close to both the NWA and WWF have confirmed Rhodes is scheduled to make his final WWF appearance this Thursday night.

The three-time NWA world champion, according to sources in the Hartford CT arena last Thursday night, was offering available WWF performers jobs in WCW before and after his early elimination from the SURVIVOR SERIES.

Ole Anderson, who took over the WCW booking chores in May, has told staffers his final day in the post is Friday. Anderson's seven-month tenure has seen WCW Saturday ratings stabilize at a 2.7 average, declines in POWER HOUR and MAIN EVENT numbers, a record audience for a CLASH special and dramatic drops in arena attendance and talent quality.

At deadline, reports could not be confirmed that Rhodes would be given a "retirement tour" by WCW before shifting to a behind-the-scenes booking chore. As late as last Tuesday's CLASH XIII card, WCW officials were not acknowledging Rhodes' hiring and were angered at reports by Dave Meltzer in THE NATIONAL last Tuesday and MATWATCH editor Steve Beverly in the Columbus (GA) Ledger-Enquirer the previous Friday speculating on the Rhodes move.

SURVIVOR SERIES

(Continued from Page 1)

a cross body block. Best move of the match: at 5:50 when Sean Michaels gave Martel a Frankensteiner. At 9:20, Martel pinned Jimmy Snuka by reversversing a superfly. Martel ambushed Jake with a clothesline and all 4 Visionaries worked Roberts over. At 16:10, Paul Roma pinned Michaels with a fly off the top. With a 1-on-4, Jake was caught in a bearhug by Warlord but rallied to DDT Warlord. However, Jake went for Damien and was counted out at 19:05 chasing Martel out. SURVIVORS: Martel/Warlord/Roma/Hercules. RATING: RESTHOLD.

HULKAMANIACS VS. NATURAL DISASTERS: Bossman took out Haku with a sideslam at 3:15 and posted Bobby Heenan. At 6:10, Jim Duggan took a DQ for using 2x4. Hogan came in to slam Earthquake and partners, then canned Bravo with a small package at 8:00. A minute later, 'Quake pinned Duggan with an elbow. Tugboat tagged in at 11:00 but he & 'Quake were both counted out for an out- side brawl. With Barbarian and Hogan left, Barb scored a 2 1/2 with a piledriver but Hogan's Super- man comeback at 14:05 ended 45 seconds later with a legdrop and pin. SURVIVOR: Hogan. RATING: RESTHOLD.

ALLIANCE VS. MERCENARIES: Santana eliminated Boris Zhukov with a forearm in 48 seconds. A minute later, Butch Miller pinned Akio Sato with a headbutt. Santana pinned Pat Tanaka at 2:12. With Sgt. Slaughter facing a 1-on-4, Sarge pinned Nikoli Volkoff at 5:25 with elbows in a terrible series. A minute later, his abdominal crash sent Luke Williams to the showers. At 6:58, Sarge pinned Butch. He scored a backbreaker on Tito at 8:00, then sent Tito crashing into the ref at 9:30. Tito rallied but Gen. Adnan creamed Santana with a flagpole. Sarge tried to apply the camel clutch but was DQed at 10:50. SURVIVOR: Santana. RATING: BOMB-PLUS.

SURVIVOR SHORTS: This one didn't advance any angles and the only significant intro was the well-done debut of Mark Callous....The NWA has its Scorpion, the WWF its Gobbledy-Gooker. Wasn't it horrible? Plus, Piper oversold how the "kids are going nuts over him"....Early buy-rate indications are around a 3.0 but those are very early.

MATWATCH 25 SCALE

CROWD ENTHUSIASM	3.8
ANNOUNCING	3.3
QUALITY OF MATCHES	2.2
TOTAL PRODUCTION	4.0
OVERALL EXCELLENCE	2.8
TOTAL RATING	16.1

Pinfall Profile

CLASH XIII: TIME TO ASK WHODUNIT?

It was enough to make Pepe Le Pew have a pleasant aroma.

Once there was a series of specials called CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS, which brought together the creme de la creme of the NWA in matches which had quality and meaning. Remember Midnight Express vs. Fantastics? Flair-Sting? Funk-Flair? Steamboat-Luger?

Last Tuesday's CLASH XIII special was subtitled THANKSGIVING THUNDER. But the only thunder in Jacksonville for TV viewers was widely scattered.

Don't fault the production. Keith Mitchell's crew produced a glitch-free show with an impressive opening featuring thunderbolt edits between shots of performers, strong closeups, particularly for the main event and during Brian Pillman-Buddy Landell.

Don't fault the announcers. In fact, had Jim Ross and Paul E. Dangerously not evolved into personal arguments (in the context of the matches) within their commentary, this show would have had a tombstone by 9:00.

Even though irritation was setting in when the advertised El Gigante missed the opener (abetted by an implausible explanation of the Freebirds abducting El and stowing him in a crate at the airport), one had hopes for this show after the outstanding Pillman-Landell match. And the Ric Flair-Butch Reed finale was tremendous with Flair opening his old bag of tricks and Reed looking better than he has in 10 years.

From there, this show fell apart like a balloon losing helium. Curtis Hughes is barely a Freezer Thompson imitation and no one who has watched wrestling more than five years could believe Brad Armstrong couldn't beat him. But to bring him Curtis out in two more run-ins??? Tom Zenk-Brian Lee had little zip but was tolerable. But why introduce Mike Rotunda's new character without benefit of the taped sketch shown on WCW Saturday to explain the transformation into Michael Wallstreet? Mike valiantly but unsuccessfully struggled to do that in 45 seconds onstage.

The failure of Kimala and Botswana Beast to show did not help. The "African tag finals" did more to hurt than boost the STARRCADE tourney. Further, obligatory run-ins of the Steiners and Nasty Boys were too predictable in each of their bouts.

But have you ever seen two worse NWA matches on CLASH specials than Lex Luger-Motor City Madman and Sid Vicious-Nightstalker? Madman ducked two clotheslines and on the slo-mo replay, embarrassingly was already moving backward before Luger applied the final clothesline. As for Sid vs. Stalker, this match didn't even belong on WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING, much less a CLASH. I don't think I've seen one this bad all year. And bringing the heel Hughes out for a run-into join the apparent baby-face 'Stalker makes one wonder: have we turned Sid? Beats me. Plus, the so-called DANGER ZONE with Sting and the Black Scorpion was nothing more than a bad David Copperfield special.

This show was clearly not a CLASH and it's time to squash the theory and people who believe one can throw green, untested guys immediately against NWA veterans simply because the guys are big. These 2 1/2 hours were enough to make Flair look like a great booker. Even George Scott.

MATWATCH 25 SCALE

CROWD ENTHUSIASM	3.3
ANNOUNCING	4.5
QUALITY OF MATCHES	1.5
TOTAL PRODUCTION	4.2
OVERALL EXCELLENCE OF SHOW	2.3
TOTAL RATING	15.8

TV TEMPO
Nov. 19-25

(NWA/TBS) - [CLASH XIII]: Freebirds d. Southern Boys when Little Richard trips Tracy Smothers into Michael Hayes DDT; Brian Pillman d. Buddy Landell; Curtis Hughes d. Brad Armstrong when ref stops as Curtis torture racks Brad; Tom Zenk d. Brian Lee; Michael Wallstreet d. Star Blazer; [AFRICAN TAG TEAM FINALS]: Sgt. Kruger/Col. DeKlerk d. Kalua/The Beast; [ANGLE] Hughes taunts Luger during interview & Luger decks Big Cat; Luger d. Motor City Madman after fending off Hughes attack on ramp; Nasty Boys d. Renegade Warriors by DQ when Steiner Brothers run in; Sid Vicious d. Nightstalker when Sid decks Night w. Stalker's club. Hughes/Stalker doubleteam Sid after; Steiners d. Magnum Force, then destroy Nasties after; [ANGLE] Black Scorpion eludes Sting in 2 illusions, including one where "fan" turned into a tiger; [COIN FLIP MATCH] Ric Flair d. Butch Reed when Arn Anderson bashes Reed w. chair as Teddy Long argues w. ref. (See Page 2 for MATWATCH 25 SCALE).
[POWER HOUR]: S. Boys d. Rip Rogers/Jim Corbett; [WNN] Gordon recaps CLASH XIII; Junkyard Dog d. Chuck Coates; Steiners d. Paul Lee/Johnny B. Goode; Hughes d. Keith Hart; Nasty Boys d. Scott Sandlin/John Chambers; [RUNNING THE GAUNTLET] Flair d. Landell; Sting d. Ring Lord II but has to survive Ole Scorpion's voice again. RESTHOLD.
[WCW]: Zenk d. Bill Irwin; J.W. Storm d. Dave Taylor; Terry Taylor d. Rogers; Landell d. Jeff Tankersley; [REPLAYS] Various CLASH highlights; Madman/Hughes d. Sandlin/Jeff Gambol; Trucker Norm d. G.Q. Stratus; [GAUNTLET II] Ron Simmons d. Flair by DQ to end GAUNTLET when Arn runs in. Horsemen/DOOM brawl; [SEGMENT] Jim Herd orders Stan Hansen to defend U.S. belt against Luger or have purse withheld; Vicious d. Mike Freeman; Armstrong/Tim Horner d. State Patrol. RESTHOLD.
[MAIN EVENT]: (NWA TV TITLE) Anderson vs. Terry Taylor no contest when DOOM runs in & beats both; Madman d. Tim Parker; [DANGER ZONE] Paul E. w. Luger-Madman CLASH match & interview w. Madman/Hughes; [REPLAY] Nasties attack on Rick Steiner before match w. Sid; Steiners d. Ed Brock/Rob Morgan; (6-MAN) Southern Boys/El Gigante d. Freebirds/Dr. X when 'Birds abandon X to be mauled by El; Juicer d. George South. RESTHOLD.

(NEW JAPAN) - [11/3]: Tony Hlame d. Soultaker; Tiger Jeet Singh d. Big Van Vader by DQ; Riki Choshu/Animal Hagamaguich d. Shiro Koshinaka/Tatsumi Fujinami. DRAW-PLUS.

(ALL JAPAN) - [11/4]: Funk Brothers d. Steve Doll/Rex King; Steve Williams/Terry Gordy d. Johnny Ace/Kenta Kobashi; Mitsuahara Hisawa/Toshiaki Kawada d. Jumbo Tsuruta/Mighty Inoue. DRAW-PLUS.

(LUCHA LIBRE) - El Hijo del Gladiador/Jaque Mate d. Javier Valaguez/El Justiciero 2-3 falls; Fuerza Guerrerra/Ponzona/Jerry Estrada d. El Nuevo Huracan Ramirez Jr./Octagon/Mascara Sagrada 2 straight; Kim Timbs/MSI/El Satanico d. El Dandy/Sangre Chicana/Ringo Mendoza 2-3; Atlantis/El Hijo del Tiniblas/El Rayo de Jalisco Jr. d. Animal I & II/Perro Aguayo 2-3; [HAIR VS. HAIR] El Faraon d. Pirata Morgan when ringside doctor stops match for blood. POWERSLAM.

(WWF/NBC) - [MAIN EVENT]: Ultimate Warrior d. Ted DiBiase (12:33) when Virgil runs in, then Randy Savage/Sherri Martel attack Ult & Randy tries to steal the WWF belt; Nikoli Volkoff no contest vs. Sgt. Slaughter when Sarge/Gen. Adnan lay Nick out before bell. Jim Duggan saves w. 2x4; Curt Hennig d. Big Bossman when Bubba chases Bobby Heenan to dressing room; Rick Martel d. Tito Santana; [SKETCH] Buddy Rose appears in "diet" commercial for "BLOW-AWAY." Hilarious spot. DRAW.

SCALE: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PINS - Midscale rating.

(WWF/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]:
Duggan d. Brian Costello; Haku d. Randy Jackson; Jake Roberts d. Mike Bennett; Shane Douglas d. Brooklyn Brawler; Warlord d. Bill Anderson; Bushwackers d. Orient Express; Earthquake d. Richards; [SPEC RPT] Jack Tunney puts Demolition on probation, limits them to 2 on a team, forces O Ex & Fuji to fill Demo's bookings vs. L.O.D. in handicaps. RESTHOLD.
[SUPERSTARS]: Hennig d. Reno Riggins; Davey Boy Smith d. Paul Diamond; Martel d. Pez Whatley; Dustin Rhodes d. Black Demon; L.O.D. d. Black Bart/Kent Carlson; (From MAIN EVENT) Warrior-DiBiase & post-match; Sgt. Slaughter d. Santana after ref fails to see Gen. Adnan hit Tito w. Iraqi flag. Sarge ties Tito up in ropes & orders him to salute Iraqi flag. Tito spits on flag & Duggan saves w. 2x4; Barbarian d. Jeff Kramer. [UPDATE] Tunney's Demo announcement. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(USWA/WMC) - [SEGMENT] Eddie Gilbert names Black Magic his bodyguard & anoints Joey Maggs as Joseph Magliano, new member of Memphis Mafia; [SOUTHERN TITLE] Eddie d. Jamie Dundee; Lawler/Bill Dundee d. Sgt. O'Reilly/Dark Shadow; Cody Michaels d. Sheik Hussein; Danny Davis d. Doug Gilbert by DQ when Black Magic runs in but Chris Champion saves; (6-MAN) [Fall 1] New Kids/Champion d. Tony Anthony/Magliano/Ken Wayne by DQ when Doug/Black Magic run in. Lawler/Dundee save but every heel in house runs in & Eddie begins bashing faces w. chair; [Fall 2] Brawl erupts. Dundee/Lawler crotchpost Magliano & Bill bashes Eddie w. chair. POWERSLAM.

(PRO WRESTLING '90) - Abdullah the Butcher d. Gerald Finley; (From LPWA) Susan Sexton d. Linda Street; (CLASSIC) Terry Gordy d. Iceman Parsons; Jack Victory d. Black Assassin (Thomas Ivey); (INTL) Youngbloods d. Chicky Starr/Mr. Pogo; Nick Busich d. Ron Starr. RESTHOLD.

(NWA/SYND) - [WORLD WIDE]: DOOM d. Pablo Crenshaw/Mark White; Tommy Rich/Ricky Morton d. Corbett/Mike Samples; [ANGLE] Sting taunted by Ole Scorpion's voice & is jumped by jobber in mask; [WRAPUP] Gordon recaps Luger-Hansen saga; Hughes d. Hart; Zenk d. Rogers; Steiners d. Moondog Rex/Landell. Nasty Boys run in & brawl w. Steiners & Ron West orders Nasties out; Freebirds d. Todd Brewer/Lee. RESTHOLD.
[NWA PRO]: Hughes d. Chambers; Steiners d. Bill Ford/J.D. Wolfe; [NWA TV TITLE] Anderson no contest vs. Taylor when DOOM runs in & beats both guys; Luger d. Brock; Nasty Boys d. Renegade Warriors but Steiners save after Nasties keep beating Renegades; [DANGER ZONE] Paul E. w. Teddy Long & clips of Big Van Vader/Motor City Madman/DOOM. DRAW.

(LPWA) - The Beast d. Kozak; Terry Power d. Judy Martin; Bambi d. Nasty Linda. BOMB-PLUS.

(USWA) - [TOURNEY RECAP] Retrospective of tourney including Jerry Lawler d. Terry Funk final; [INTERVIEW] Funk wins belt & holds up to mom. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP]: Bill & Jamie Dundee d. Doug Gilbert/Tony Anthony by DQ; [REPLAY] Lawler-Funk; Danny Davis d. Quasar; Joey Maggs d. Freezer Thompson; [REPLAY] Gilbert-Jarrett saga; Brickhouse Brown d. Lou Fabiano. RESTHOLD.

(ICW) - Jonathan Boyd d. Frank Viola; Johnny K-9 d. Bert Santana; Chris Adams d. Invader; Power Twins d. Ricki Lawless/ Scott (the Body) Levy; Ivan Putski d. Bob Orton Jr.; Scott Putski d. Dan Evans. BOMB!!

LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Paul E. Dangerously, PH, to Jim Ross: "You were about as useful to me at the CLASH as Gordon Solie at a Youth of America convention." 2. Roddy Piper, SURVIVOR SERIES: "They (the Russians) give us Nikoli Volkoff and we give them MTV and 2 LIVE CREW." 3. Paul E., PH, on JYD's abdominal stretch: "That's one thing you don't want to put on him: too many abdominals." 4. Piper, WWF SUPERSTARS: "If the Bossman lived 100 years ago, he'd be Judge Roy Bean." 5. Paul E., CLASH XIII, on Steiners: "If these two guys represent the United States of America, then I'm moving to Canada." 6. Eddie Gilbert, WMC: "Foreign object. Are you talking about Tojo?" 7. Piper, WWF-SU: "I love the Gobbledy-Gooker. Those little things under his neck remind me of Heenan." 8. Brother LUV/Sean Mooney, WWF SPOTLIGHT: (BL) "I've spent all day with the President." (SM) "You've been with Jack Tunney?" (BL) "I MEAN GEORGE BUSH!" 9. Dutch Mantel, WWW, on J.W. Storm: "You know what the initials J.W. stand for? Just Wait." 10. Paul E./Ross, CLASH XIII: (PE) "Don't bring out MY FAVORITE MARTIAN against Michael Wallstreet." (JR) "It's like a hostile takeover."

11. Piper, SS, on Gene Okerlund's dance: "He looks like Fred Sanford." 12. Mooney, WWF-SU, on Kerry Von Erich: "As a virtual unknown, he captured the Intercontinental championship." 13. Piper, SS: "I hate snakes. Even the ones with 2 legs." 14. Piper, SS, on Jimmy Snuka: "He's the original guy who says the sky is falling." 15. Piper, SS, on Hulkamaniacs-Natural Disasters : "This ain't no beauty contest." 16. Mantel, WWW, on Tom Zenk: "His neck looks like a stack of dimes." 17. Mantel/Storm, WWW: (DM) "I've been racking my brain trying to figure out what that Z means." (JWS) "Zip-a-dee-doo-dah-day." 18. Brickhouse Brown, WMC, to Eddie Gilbert: "You better have Scotty beam you up."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Stan Hansen, WWW: "Nobody has ever controlled me in professional wrestling. If they tried, I just left." 2. Paul E., CLASH, on Steve Armstrong tackles: "You were telling me this is not football and the guy uses a football maneuver. MAKE UP YOUR MIND, Ross!" 3. Ross, CLASH, to Paul E.: "You're a great liar!"

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - Paul E., CLASH, on Kalula: "Is that a weave or is that his natural hair?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. THE MIKE WALLACE OF WRESTLING (Paul E. on himself). 2. ULTIMATE TURKEY, ULTIMATE CHICKEN, ULTIMATE LOSER (Randy Savage on Ultimate Warrior). 3. MR. LUCKY (Paul E. on Luger).

BEST PICTURES - 1. CLASH XIII, Air Pillman off top rope into rail on Landell. 2. SURVIVOR SERIES, Undertaker's stare. 3. SS, Hennig's two over-top bumps. 4. SS, Ultimate Warrior railing Bobby Heenan. 5. WMC, Final match brawl. 6. CLASH, Flair-Butch Reed pre-match standoff.

ENGLISH LESSON - Eddie Gilbert, WMC: "I have went out."

BLOOPER AWARDS - 1. Tony Schiavone, CLASH: "...sale of bill." 2. Marty Jannetty, WWF-SP: "We understand Demolition is going back to the basics. Maybe that means they'll play by the rules like when they first arrived in the WWF."

ALL-CLICHE TEAM - 1. Gorilla Monsoon, SS: "...close but no cigar." 2. Vince McMahon Jr., MAIN EVENT: "...close but no cigar." 3. Ross, CLASH: "...time will tell." 4. Lawler, WMC: "...everything but the kitchen sink."

BOO AWARD - WCW, for CLASH XIII. Even if the rating turns out strong, fans deserve better than this.

TUBE TALK

Condolences go to the Hart family in the death of son Dean, which Roddy Piper referred to during SURVIVOR SERIES Thursday night....Curt Hennig regained the Intercontinental title a week ago Sunday but it won't be referred to on TV until the match is shown, unless Titan pulls a Rockers.... We did not report the NWA's signing of Lawrence Taylor to appear at the Jan. 11 Meadowlands show last week because at deadline, the deal had not been finalized and negotiators ran nervous Vince may have upped the ante to get him for Nassau Coliseum that night....The Michael Wallstreet segment was nicely edited but it still didn't make clear why Mike suddenly had this change of heart again.

WWF shows over the weekend with Hogan-Earthquake did very well, including 11,000 in Chicago, for biggest Titan weekend since WRESTLEMANIA. But Warrior-Savage in Detroit only drew 1,800, which shows how little the impact was of the Friday night NBC angle....Kevin Von Erich's WORLD CLASS revival is officially dead. Two months of no TV and weak houses have finished him. Jerry Jarrett not expected to return to the SPORTATORIUM because of cheap rent at Bronco Bowl....I asked Jim Herd if WCW might reconsider putting WRESTLE WAR '91 in Phoenix in the wake of the Martin Luther King holiday controversy. Herd said: "I'm not touching that one. I don't think sports and politics ought to mix."

MATWATCH SHOPPERS NETWORK

PRO WRESTLING ENQUIRER/HEADLINE NEWS, Harvey Cobb's bulletin, is out with a new issue and list of 80 available tapes. Send $2.25 to Harvey at 2619 Ruffin Way, NORFOLK VA 23504.

DIANE DEVINE, one of our favorite MATWATCHers, is organizing a card shower for ailing ring vet RONNIE ETCHISON. Whether you are a veteran or a young fan, I'd like to join Diane in the project. Etchison is seriously ill and it would be a boost for him to receive "thinking of you" or upbeat friendly cards. No letters. Send the cards to: RONNIE ETCHISON, 5026 FARAON, ST. JOSEPH MO 64508.

WRESTLING STYLE, Jim Dough's fine publication, has a photo list available. For the list, write WS PHOTO SERVICE, P.O. BOX 711, LANHAM MD 20703-0711, or call (301) 577-WRST.

ALFONS VAN MERKESTEIN, HET ACHTERVELD 32, 4003 VN TIEL, HOLLAND, is anxious to correspond with American fans and has a new play-by-mail wrestling game available. Write him for details.

GLOBAL WRESTLING NEWS SERVICE is Tom Burke's update and nostalgia bulletin now in its 16th year. It's $1.50 per issue, $7 for 5 or $21 for 15. $26 overseas.

A WHOPPER: Dollar amounts are never confirmed but insider reports have the Steiner Brothers being offered a two-year deal to stay with the NWA at a reported $300,000 each with an option for an increase in a third year.

NASTY DEALS: But we're told the Nasty Boys turned down a reported $3,000-a-week to stay. They did opt to join the WWF and will be gone in about two more weeks.

ALL BETS OFF?: That's what a number of analysts are saying about STARRCADE if Dusty in fact takes over as WCW booker next week. One inside joke has Stan Hansen not coming back from Japan with the U.S. belt and Dusty saying Dustin "beat Hansen in Japan" for the title. Put it this way: retirement tour or not, there's no way Dustin won't be pushed hard.

RATINGS DELAYS: Next week, we'll offer two weeks of ratings but computer delays because of Thanksgiving kept us from the CLASH figures at deadline and from last weekend's USA/WWF shows. For the NWA: WCW (Nov. 17) 2.8/5.4 share; MAIN EVENT (18th) 2.5/4.3; POWER HOUR (17th) 1.5/6.0.

PIX POPS: Ratings for NWA PRO with Ross/Paul E. on WPIX have grown steadily the last three weeks from a 2.1/8.0 on Nov. 3 to 2.9/10 on the 10th to 3.2/12 on the 17th.

WISHING RON WELL: NWA road agent Ron West has been hospitalized after collapsing in the Atlanta office last week. I've known Ron since 1977 when he was a ref in Georgia and we wish him a speedy recovery.

AXEL ON TV?: The Maryland-Virginia based ASWA group has been touting a Dec. 1 date on HOME TEAM SPORTS cable but the HTS schedule does not list it.

NOT A BASH: Baltimore drew 3,500 for the NWA Saturday night with Scott Steiner and J.W. Storm no-showing. Rick Steiner took on the Nasty Boys by himself in a cage and Lex Luger made a save.

JUICE CITY: On the same show, the DOOM-Horsemen match was said to be tremendous with Flair heavily juicing. Also, El Gigante now dancing to music which got a crowd pop.

COUNTERPROGRAMMING: With NWA in both Baltimore and Washington over the weekend, WWF countered with all-localized promos on its Friday night SPOTLIGHT and Saturday WTTG show in Washington over the weekend. Titan was in Capital Centre Saturday afternoon.

THANKSGIVING UCW: Chris Love's UCW billed Eddie Gilbert, Destruction Crew and Tom Prichard for its Thanksgiving Wichita show but all no-showed. Among the highlights: Rex King over Ken Wayne and Wahoo McDaniel over Russian Brute.

UCW RETURNS: UCW returns to its usual time slots in a half-hour time slot this weekend after three weeks of college football pre-emptions.

FRIDAY IN TAMPA: In a night-after-Thanksgiving show at the Sportatorium, Steve Keirn d. Don Harris to keep his Florida title in one which ended with a melee involving Hurricane Walker and Johnny G. Lyons.

MATWATCHING

ALSO STARRING: In nother Tampa bouts, Jim Backlund d. Johnny Padros in a light heavyweight title bout and Backlund later interfered to give Walker and the Terminator a DQ win over Ron Slinker and Mark Starr.

MORE INDIES: UWA ran a show in Leesburg MD Saturday night with Paul Orndorff vs. Bam Bam Bigelow on top and Cheetah Kid against Ray Apollo.

ONE MORE TIME: Around the USWA circuit during December will be RENEGADES RUMBLE formats where guys will wrestle three and four times on the same show.

MONDAY IN MEMPHIS: The format kicked off Monday at the Mid-South Coliseum headlined by a six-man "explosion" match with Jeff Jarrett/Jerry Lawler/Bill Dundee vs. Eddie & Doug Gilbert/Black Magic. Gilbert is also put up the Southern title against Brickhouse Brown.

CORNETTE CHRONICLES: Wade Keller is about to begin a series of interviews with Jim Cornette in PRO WRESTLING TORCH. He has about seven hours on tape with Corny and it should be terrific reading. Cost: $1.25 an issue from Wade at P.O. Box 201844, MINNEAPOLIS MN 55420.

FROM WHERE I SIT: Atlanta's own Scott Hudson, part of the GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL will Steve Prazak, has a new seg on Boni Blackstone's WVEU SUPERSTARS OF WRESTLING. It's called FROM A FAN'S PERSPECTIVE and I'm told Scott did a class job. Don't be surprised if he gets a shot at a Global seg.

BOBBY'S DECISION: Bobby Eaton is reportedly being offered a nice deal to remain with WCW as a single and it may be one he cannot refuse.

RESNICK'S REPLY: Ken Resnick says MATWATCH was given inaccurate info concerning his editing of LPWA shows. Resnick says he did not demand creative and editing control over the programs and states he completed two shows, not the one we were told.

MATWATCH 1990 ANNUAL

The 1990 MATWATCH ANNUAL: WHAT WENT WRONG is on the way. It includes the naming of the MATWATCH MAN OF THE YEAR and MATWATCHER OF THE YEAR, the top 15 TV news stories of 1990, our annual WRESTLING TV LOG, analysis of what's ahead in 1991, some interesting cartoons, a look at the ring's past by Dr. Gerald Morton and a preview of our upcoming midyear commemorative edition depicting the 50th ANNIVERSARY OF TV WRESTLING.

Price: $12 for U.S./Canada and $20 overseas. You may order by check, cash or money order immediately from MATWATCH, 16 ROBIN HOOD LANE, JACKSON TN 38305. If you give an annual as a gift, you receive 2 bonus issues of MATWATCH.

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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

EADIE SIGNS WITH GLOBAL AS TALENT COORDINATOR

ATLANTA---Veteran wrestler Bill Eadie (Demolition Ax, Masked Superstar) has signed with Joe Pedicino's Global Wrestling Federation as talent coordinator.

Eadie, who is also expected to initially revive his WWF image as The Demolisher, finished his Titan Sports commitments at Thursday's SURVIVOR SERIES.

The move allows Eadie to work out of his Atlanta home and Eadie will be in charge of recruiting and negotiating with performers for GWF. Pedicino has already gained a commitment from USWA booker Eddie Gilbert as television coordinator. Gilbert will handle creative direction for GWF TV shows.

Pedicino is now looking for an arena show coordinator but will likely not begin serious house events until the spring of 1991.

WILLIAMS, GORDY AGREE TO GWF DECEMBER TAPING

ATLANTA---Steve Williams and Terry Gordy have agreed to work for Global Wrestling Federation's Dec. 28 taping in Dallas' Bronco Bowl.

Williams and Gordy will be negotiating with Global over the New Year's weekend for their exclusive U.S. ring rights.

The two, both former UWF heavyweight champions, if signed, would work for Global between their respective Japan dates.

GOODHART ANNOUNCES WINTER CHALLENGE II LINEUP

PHILADELPHIA---An audience-participation lumberjack match between Terry Funk and Jerry Lawler headline Joel Goodhart's WINTER CHALLENGE II card March 2 in Philadelphia.

At a news conference last week, Goodhart announced fans can register for a drawing to be one of 12 lumberjacks in the showdown.

In other matches, Greg Valentine will meet Ronnie Garvin in a "battle of the figure-4 leglocks," Eddie Gilbert takes on Cactus Jack in a pin anywhere in the building match, Stan Lane faces Al Perez, the original Sheik collides with Abdullah the Butcher, Johnny Hotbody meets Tony Stetson in a barbed-wire fence match and the winner of a ringmaster rumble will get a show at Tri-state Wrestling Association champ D.C. Drake. More info available from 1-800-C-RASSLIN'.

MATWATCH HOTLINE
(901) 664-0931

BALLOT ADDITIONS

One correction should be made to last week's MATWATCH TV AWARDS ballot for the 1990 MATWATCH ANNUAL. On the front side, the third column at the top of the page says WORST COLOR COMMENTATOR (Continued). Hopefully, you have deduced that should be a continuation of the BEST COLOR COMMENTATOR nominees which begin at the bottom of column 2.

There are some nominees listed in both the BEST OF... and WORST OF... of their categories. They reflect a division in comments from readers--plus, with SURVIVOR SERIES as the final PPV show of the awards year, often people feel the show fits into either BEST or WORST categories.

We are adding nominees in a few categories based on last week's special shows. Please add them to your ballots if you have not voted:

BEST BROADCAST/CABLE TV MATCH: Ric Flair vs. Butch Reed, CLASH XIII; Brian Pillman vs. Buddy Landell, CLASH XIII.

BEST PPV MATCH: Million $ Team vs. Dream Team, SURVIVOR SERIES.

BEST NEW CHARACTER(S): The Undertaker, WWF.

WORST BROADCAST/CABLE TV MATCH: Sid Vicious vs. Nightstalker, CLASH XIII; Lex Luger vs. Motor City Madman, CLASH XIII; Brad Armstrong vs. Curtis Hughes, CLASH XIII; Slaughter vs. Volkoff, MAIN EVENT.

WORST PPV MATCH: Alliance vs. Mercenaries, SURVIVOR SERIES.

WORST SUPERCARD: CLASH XIII: Thanksgiving Thunder, NWA.

(Again, remember, ballots must be in by Dec. 20 to count in the 1990 ANNUAL awards poll. Only one ballot per person.)

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(OVERSEAS) $9 for 5 issues, $18 for 11, $27 for 16.

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